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Written Testimony of Christopher Phelps, Program Director
Before the Connecticut General Assembly Commerce Committee

February 24, 2011

Written testimony **opposing HB 6400**, An Act Streamlining The Department of Environmental Protection's Stormwater General Permitting Process.

Senator LeBeau, Representative Berger, Senator Frantz, Representative Camillo, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer this testimony opposing HB 6400. Environment Connecticut is a member-supported non-profit environmental advocacy organization.

We oppose this legislation because it appears that the intent of the bill is to allow for applicants to bypass regulatory oversight by hiring a professional engineer to "certify" that their stormwater permit application complies with state and local regulations. Such self-regulation schemes are clearly not in the public interest and in this case would pose a direct threat to clean water in Connecticut.

On behalf of Environment Connecticut's statewide membership, I urge you to reject HB 6400

Sincerely,

Christopher Phelps
Program Director
Environment Connecticut